



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1950
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/091,472	03/07/2002	Jae Shin Yu	HI-0074	9044
34610	7590	10/14/2005	EXAMINER	
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP P.O. BOX 221200 CHANTILLY, VA 20153			TRAN, QUOC A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2176	

DATE MAILED: 10/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/091,472

Applicant(s)

YU ET AL.

Examiner

Quoc A. Tran

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08/02/2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 12184/2001 filed 03/09/2001.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communication: Amendment filed 08/02/2005, with acknowledgement of original filing date of 03/07/2004, which was benefited from foreign priority No. 12184/2001 filed 03/09/2001.

2. Claims 1-20 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 13 and 17 are independent claims.

Response to Argument

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims invention set forth non-functional descriptive material but fails to set forth physical structures or materials comprising of hardware or a combination of hardware and software within the technological arts (i.e. a computer) to produce a "useful, concrete and tangible" result. Claims 1-20, are interpreted as software per se, abstract ideas or mental construct and not tangibly embodied on a computer readable medium or hardware.

Further, to expedite a complete examination of the instant application the claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 (nonstatutory) above are further rejected as set forth below in anticipation

Art Unit: 2176

of applicant amending these claims to place them within the four statutory categories of invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claims 1-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Gibbon et al.

US006714909B1 – filed 11/21/2000 (hereinafter Gibbon ‘909), in view of Nelson et al.

US006243713B1 – filed 08/24/1998 (hereinafter Nelson ‘713).

In regard to independent claim 1, extracting a plurality of text areas from a video stream (Gibbon ‘909 at col. 2, lines 1-30, discloses ability to segment multimedia data, such as news broadcasts, into retrievable units that are directly related to what users perceive as meaningful, such as separating a multimedia data stream into audio, visual and text components, segmenting the audio, visual and text components based on semantic differences),

calculating importance measures according to weights for each of the extracted text areas (Gibbon ‘909 at col. 8, line 45 through col. 14, line 40, also see Fig. 13-Fig.17, discloses a mechanism to recover the semantic structure of the data for creating appropriate descriptions of the extracted multimedia content, such as:

(i) To present the semantic structure to the users,

(ii) To represent the particular semantics based on the content of the news story,

(iii) To form the representation for news summary of the day,

Wherein textual and another is combination of text with visual is to automatically construct the representation in a form that is most relevant to the content of the underlying story according to their importance computed as weighted frequency (see Gibbon '909 at col. 8, line 10 through col. 9 through col. 12, line 5 for detail of the calculation steps and formula of the importance computed as weighted frequency) Examiner read the above in the broadest reasonable interpretation to the claim limitation, wherein calculating importance measures would have been an obvious variant of computed as weighted frequency.

Gibbon '909 does not explicitly teach, **synthesizing the number of text areas into a synthetic key frame**, however (Nelson '713 at col. 6, lines 5-50, discloses compound documents which are separated into constituent multimedia components of different data types, such as text, images, video, audio/voice, and other data types with portion thereof. Preferably these various multimedia components are combined with one or more query operators includes both text and image components, and a number of query operators defining both logical relationships and proximity relationships between the multimedia components) Examiner read the above in the broadest reasonable interpretation to the claim limitation, wherein synthetic key frame would have been an obvious variant of separated into constituent multimedia components of different data types and combined with one or more query operators includes both text and image components),

Selecting a number of text areas to be synthesized based upon the importance measures in the order of higher importance, however (Nelson '713 at col. 6, lines 5-50, however (Nelson '713 at col. 6, lines 5-50, discloses compound documents which are separated

into constituent multimedia components of different data types, such as text, images, video, audio/voice, and other data types with portion thereof. Preferably these various multimedia components are combined with one or more query operators includes both text and image components, and a number of query operators defining both logical relationships and proximity relationships between the multimedia components) Examiner read the above in the broadest reasonable interpretation to the claim limitation, wherein synthetic key frame and based upon the importance measures would have been an obvious variant of separated into constituent multimedia components of different data types and combined with one or more query operators includes both text and image components and logical relationships and proximity relationships between the multimedia components, to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made .

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Gibbon '909, discloses a method of extracting a plurality of text areas from a video stream and calculating importance measures according to weights for each of the extracted text areas, to include a means of synthesizing the text areas to be synthesized into the key frame and selecting the number of text areas to be synthesized based upon the importance measures in the order of higher importance of Nelson '713. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification to provide a desirable system that retrieves compound documents in response to queries that include various multimedia elements in a structured form, including text, image features, audio, or video (as taught by Nelson '713 at col. 2, lines 10-20).

In regard to independent claims 13 and 17, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited in claim 1 above, and are similarly rejected along the same rationale.

In regard to dependent claim 2, wherein the text areas are extracted according to certain intervals of the video stream (Gibbon '909 at col. 14, lines 15-35, discloses the steps wherein during playback, audio is synchronized with video. Either key frames or the original video stream is played back. The text scrolls up with time. In the black box at the bottom, the timing with respect to the starting point of the program is given...).

In regard to dependent claim 3, wherein a synthetic key frame is generated for each of the certain intervals of the video stream (Gibbon '909 at col. 13, lines 15-35 discloses the steps during playback, audio is synchronized with video. Either key frames or the original video stream is played back. The text scrolls up with time. In the black box at the bottom, the timing with respect to the starting point of the program is given...).

In regard to dependent claim 4, wherein the certain intervals of the video stream are discriminated by scenes as logical units of a video (Gibbon '909 at col. 10, line 15 through col. 11, line 40, also see Fig. 12, discloses a stream of detected audio events where A stands for anchor's speech, D stands for detailed reporting (from non-anchor people), and C stands for commercials. The center timeline in FIG. 12 shows the segments of text obtained from the text event segmentation (unit 405) using marker A where the duration of each segment does not include commercials) Examiner read the above in the broadest reasonable interpretation to the claim limitation, wherein certain intervals and logical units would have been an obvious variant of timeline the segments of text obtained from the text event segmentation using markers A, C and D, to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made .

In regard to dependent claim 5, wherein the certain intervals of the video stream are discriminated by shots as physical units of a video (Gibbon '909 at col. 10, line 15 through col. 11, line 40, also see Fig. 12, discloses a stream of detected audio events where A stands for anchor's speech, D stands for detailed reporting (from non-anchor people), and C stands for commercials. The center timeline in FIG. 12 shows the segments of text obtained from the text event segmentation (unit 405) using marker A where the duration of each segment does not include commercials) Examiner read the above in the broadest reasonable interpretation to the claim limitation, wherein certain intervals and logical units would have been an obvious variant of timeline the segments of text obtained from the text event segmentation using markers A, C and D, to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made .

In regard to dependent claim 6, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited in claim 1 above and in further view of the following, and is similarly rejected along the same rationale, ...a display duration time of a text (Gibbon '909 at col. 10, line 15 through col. 11, line 40, also see Fig. 12, discloses a center timeline wherein the segments of text obtained from the text event segmentation (unit 405) using marker A, C and D...).

In regard to dependent claim 7, wherein the mean text size in the text area is determined by using a density and size of a histogram for the text area (Gibbon '909 at col. 13, line 60 through col. 14, line 5, also see Fig. 15, discloses a keyword histogram is first constructed a fixed number of key frames within the boundary are chosen so that they (1) are not within anchor speech segments and (2) yield maximum covered area with respect to the keywords histogram. The peak points marked on the histogram in FIG. 15 indicate the positions

of the chosen frames and the shaded area underneath them defines the total area coverage on the histogram by the chosen key frames...).

In regard to dependent claim 8, wherein the display duration time of the text is determined by considering whether a previously extracted text area is identical to a currently extracted text area (Gibbon '909 at col. 10, lines 50-65, discloses the block of text available at this point, the task is to determine how these blocks of text can be merged to form semantically coherent content based on appropriate criteria. Since news introductions are to provide a brief and succinct message about the story, they naturally have a much shorter duration than the detailed news reports. Based on this observation, in step 5060, a headline story segmentation unit 440 initially classifies each block of text as a story candidate or an introduction candidate based on duration. ..., Also Gibbon '909 at col. 12, lines 15-25 discloses blocks formed in this way not only contain enough information for similarity comparison but also have natural breaks of chains of repeated words if true boundaries are present...) Examiner read the above in the broadest reasonable interpretation to the claim limitation, wherein determined by considering whether a previously extracted text area is identical to a currently extracted text area would have been an obvious variant of t block of text available at this point and contain enough information for similarity comparison but also have natural breaks of chains of repeated words if true boundaries are present , to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made .

In regard to dependent claim 9, wherein the weight increases as the size of the text area, the mean text size of the text area or the display duration time of the text increases, (Gibbon '909 at col. 13, lines 30-50, also see Fig. 14, discloses a window that plays back

Art Unit: 2176

streaming content to a user. It is triggered when users click on a particular item. In this playback window, the upper portion shows the video and the lower portion the text synchronized with the video. During playback, audio is synchronized with video. Either key frames or the original video stream is played back. The text scrolls up with time. In the black box at the bottom, the timing with respect to the starting point of the program is given... keywords are chosen in step 5080 above, from the story according to their importance computed as weighted frequency).

In regard to dependent claims 10-12, 15-16 and 18 incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited in claim 1 above, and are similarly rejected along the same rationale. Examiner read the above in the broadest reasonable interpretation to the claim limitation, wherein the certain rule is addition of values obtained by multiplying the weight determining factors with the corresponding weights and wherein the weight determining factors would have been an obvious variant of calculating importance measures according to weights, to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

In regard to dependent claim 14, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited in claim 6 above, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

In regard to dependent claim 19, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited in claim 7 above, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

In regard to dependent claim 20, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited in claim 8 above, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

Art Unit: 2176

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quoc A. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-4103. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Herndon R. Heather can be reached on (571) -272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Quoc A. Tran
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2176
October 5, 2005

William L. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
10/12/2005